ing to implement the proposals mentioned in parts(a) and (b) above; and

(d) what alternative remedial measures Government propose in the matter with a view to accelerating the flow of assistance to small sector under the new small scale industrial policy to eradicate unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is currently no proposal for widening the scope of the *Seed Capital Scheme* being administered by SIDBI for giving assistance to the small scale sector. As regards the *Special Capital Fund Scheme*. State Financial Corporations provide seed capital assistance from their Special Capital Fund contributed by the respective State Governments and IDBI on a matching basis.

(b) Under the policy measures announced by the Government in August, 1991 for promting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises, the scope of the National Equity Fund Scheme (NEFS) has been widened to cover projects upto Rs. 10 lakhs. There is currently no proposal for any further increase in the project cost. No decision has, however, been taken on the delinking of population/location criteria for eligibility of equity assistance under the National Equity Fund Scheme.

(c) Since part (a) of the question does not contain any specific proposal, the question of SIDBI suffering any further economic or financial loss does not appear to arise. As the financial implications of part (b) are currently not quantifiable, it is also not possible to make any estimate for the likely losses to be suffered by SIDBI under the National Equity Fund Scheme.

(d) Policy measures have already been announced by the Government on 6-8-91 for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village industries. The primary objective of this policy during the 90s would be to impart more vitality and a growth impetus to the sector to enable it to conribute its might fully to the economy, particularly in terms of growth of output, employment and exports.

Steps taken by export-import bank of India for promoting exports of small scale industries

389. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Import Bank of India has recently taken some steps to promote and build export successes for small scale industries, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the names and addresses of foreign buyers/organisation enlisted/identified by Export Import Bank for Indian products with estimated export requisite in each case;

(c) whether Export Import Bank is providing financial assistance to such export oriented units, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Export Import Bank has separately set up a division for promotion and growth of such export for small sector, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM BANK) has reported that it promotes and builds export success for small scale industries, as also for other industries, through its various lending programmes. All these programmes are available to export oriented small scale units. One programme, the rediscounting of export bills of commercial banks,

has been designed exclusively for small scale units. Under this programme Exim Bank rediscounts short term export bills of small scale units. Usance export bills of SSI exporters, with usance not exceeding 180 days and unexpired usance of a maximum period of 90 days arising out of bonafide post-shipment export transactions, discounted by banks who are authorised dealers in foreign exchange, are eligible for rediscounting by Exim Bank.

(b) Identification of overseas buyers and organisations is a function of associations like the Trade Development Authority, Engineering Export Promotion Council and Federation of Small Scale Industries Association.

(c) Exim Bank supports the export efforts of small scale units through its lending programmes; details, where specific to the small scale sector, have already been indicated in (a)above.

(d) Small scale industry exports are financed by various departments of Exim Bank organised on the basis of its lending programmes. No separate division has been set up for this purpose.

World Bank's Observations on Indian Economic Policies

390. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'Indian Express', Pune edition of 24th September, 1991 captioned "WB warns India of many pitfalls", if so, what are the observations of the World Bank's report of 1991 in connection with new economic policies; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to meet the various objections of the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the 1990-91 Annual Report, the World Bank has observed that "For India, the 1980's was a decade of higher growth performance and improved social indicators. The Report also adds, that the sustained rate of growth and the improvement in the living conditions of the people were associated, however, with the emergence of macroeconomic imbalances ... Although the economy continued to grow during India's 1991 fiscal year, the expectations for the current fiscal year are more conservative. Many pitfallls await the new governmen , which will need to manage this crisis with skill and dispatch, while also addressing the many structural-reform issues inhibiting growth in the economy". Government of India has on its own initiative implemented wide ranging changes in the shape of industrial policy, trade policy, public sector enterprises and financial sectors to accelerate the pace of our development process.

Fixed deposits in Banks and Government Schemes

391. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of fixed deposits in banks and other Government of India Schemes before 31st March, 1991, category-wise;

(b) what is the total amount of fixed deposits as on 31st October, 1991; and

(c) what are the reasons for variations in the amount, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE